Numb. 102

THE REHEARSAL.

1. Some more of the *Weather-Cock*. With the *College* whose *Chymnie* was on *Fire*. And the *Defence* Mr. *De Foe* makes for Himself, by his *two* Pretty *Questions*.
2. The *News* of the *Flying-Post*, That the *Author* of the *Rehearsal* was taken up for the *Memorial*. with the *Design* of it.
3. The *Satisfaction* he Demands from these Men. With a Seasonable *Caution* to others to beware of them.
4. De Foe *Blasphems* the *Doctrin* of *Divine Right*. Which yet is the *Plea* of the *Whiggs*, and of *Popular* Government.

WEDNESDAY, *May* 8th. 1706.

(1.) *Rehearsal.* I Have not yet done, *Country-man*, with Mr. *De Foe* and his *Weather-Cock*. I had not Room in my Last. I shew'd you how he has *Fought* it *Inch* by *Inch*. in Defence of his Beloved *Lye*!

First he said the *Weather-Cock* was set up—Being *Beaten* from that *Hold*, he then said it was *Made*, tho' not *set up*. But he was Forc'd to *Quit* that too, upon full *Proof* made to the Contrary. Then he comes to *Thoughts* and *Designs*. Was there no such thing *Design'd*? Any man of Common *Shame* wou'd have been *Confounded* at this! But it *Moves* not him a *Jot*! He's at it again. And no Longer ago than in his *Review* of last *Feb.* 28. he says, *The Gentlemen of the* WEATHER-COCK, *When one of the Chymnies of a College was on Fire, Assembled together, and formally voted the House was in no Danger.* This he brings in as their *Comment* upon the late *Vote* that the *Church* was not in *Danger*, which he Recites before to Usher in this *Story*. Whether there was any *Malice* in this, I leave to himself to Explain. Or whether he is yet *Asham'd* of his Profound *Lye* about the *Weather-Cock*?

Country-m. If not, all honest Men shou'd be *Asham'd* of *Him*! And you may Retort upon him what he says of you, in his *Review* you Quoted in your last of *Oct.* 9. 1705 p. 375. about this *Weather-Cock*, wherein he says, *Blush then, Gentlemen of the Gown, for your* REHEARSAL, *and be asham'd of him as you ought.* But this was not said, *Master*, on account of the *Weather-Cock*, but of two *Queries* he puts to you about the *Ridiculous Doctrin* (as he *Reverently* words it) of *Jure Divino*. As if it were against the *Revolution*. And he says, *when Mr.* REHEARSAL *shall directly Answer these Questions, the* REVIEW *will Quietly let him Triumph about his* OXFORD WEATHER-COCK.

Rehearf. That is as the Boys say to one another, when one Asks a *Question* the other cannot *Answer*, What! Ask *Questions* with a *Dirty-Face*! He thought here he had me at an *Advantage*. And that I Durst not *Answer* his *Questions*. But I have since made it fully Appear, That the *Revolution* has supported and own'd the *Doctrin* I Defend. And that the *Reviews*, *Observators*, and Rest of the *Scandalous Clubb* have Directly Flown in the Face of the *Revolution*, and made it as *Black* as the 30th. of *January*, and the *Principles* upon which they went. And this I have made out so very Apparently, that the *Tribe* are *Silenc'd*, and Mr. *De Foe* has taken time to Answer his *Dry* and *Wet Martyrdom*. Of which I have Minded him, and believe shall have Occasion of doing it ofter, before he Rid himself of that *Tough* Piece of *Work* he has *Unwarily* undertaken, in the *Heat* of his *Courage*!

But suppose I cou'd not *Answer* these *Questions*. What has that to do with the *Story* of the *Weather-Cock*, upon which he brings it in? This is *Directly* Pleading *Guilty* as to that! And yet he will not *Repent*, nor *Confess*, nor *Blush*? For he is a *Whigg*!

Country-m. Well, *Master*, I am Resolv'd to follow the *Rule* you gave me in your Last, not to Believe a *Word* they say, either for Themselves, or against any that have *Detected* their *Lies*, and *Discover'd* their *Designs*.

(2.) I wish I had taken this *Rule* sooner. It wou'd have sav'd me an Akeing Heart for you, *Master*, last *Summer*. For your Good Friend the *Flying Post* did then put it in his *Paper*, that the *Author* of the *Rehearsal*, was taken up for being the *Author* of the *Memorial*. and had given 1000 pounds *Bail* to Appear the next *Term*, that was after the *Long-Vacation*, in which time he Gave us this news from *London*. And I being in the *Country*, did believe it, and heard many Talk of it, and say many hard things of you, *Master*, for this.

Rehearf. I read it too, *Country-man*, in the *Flying-Post*. But took no Notice of it, as not thinking it worth while. Nor now indeed, only to shew the *Lying Spirit* that has *Possess'd* these Men; And the Inveterat *Malice* that Reigns in them! For he cou'd not but know that their was not a word of *Truth* in it, because there was no *Step* made that way, or any *Suspicion* that I ever heard of, except from these *News-Writers*. But this was *Marking* a Man, and had there been the least Ground for it, to have him Taken up, and put to *Trouble*. Besides *Blowing* his *Name* about in *Print*, and Exposing him to the *Fury* of the *Mobb* all over the *Nation*. This was their *Godly* Design!

Country-m. May you not bring an *Action* against him *Master*? For here was Real *Mischief*

chief Intended you. And with those that Believe it may still do you a *Prejudice*.

Rehearſ. Alaſs! *Country-Man*, when I ſee ſo Many far Better than I, *Aſpers'd* by *Name*, even his *Royal Highneſs*, as I have often taken Notice, and ſeveral *Noble-Men*, and the *Univerſities*, and whole *Body* of the *Clergy*: And yet they take no Notice, no, nor the the *Houſe* of *Commons*, when *Legion'd* by this *Set* of *Men* about the *Streets*, even while they were *Sitting*; what then am I, that I ſhou'd Expect to *Stem* this *Tide* which Bears down all before it? If *Merton-College* is Content to ſit down Quietly under their *Weather-Cock*, what wou'd you have the poor *Rehearſal* to do? How do you think he wou'd be Heard?

(3.) But all the *Satisfaction* I ſeek from theſe Men is their *Repentance*. Of which I confeſs I have little Hopes. Becauſe I ſee them *Harden* themſelves againſt *Argument* and *Conviction*. And ſtop at no *Wickedneſs* to carry on their *Cauſe*. They make a *Mock* of *Sin*, and think *Falſe Accuſing*, *Lying* and *Slander* to be a Good *Jeſt*, and *Laugh* when they are *Convicted* of it! But I hope what I have ſaid will open the *Eyes* of other *People*, to ſee whither theſe men are Leading them. And what that *Cauſe* is which muſt be *Begun* and *Carry'd on* with *Lies* to the End of the *Chapter*!

But Chiefly I have taken Pains to Examin their falſe *Principles* of *Government* to the Bottom, which have Coſt this *Nation* ſo much *Blood* and *Treaſure*; And which make all *Settlement* Impracticable to the End of the World! And thus much I have Gain'd, that their *Mouths* are *Stopt*, they downright Refuſe to Come to the *Argument*, and Return nothing but *Railing* and *Billingsgate*. But this cannot hold out long with Men of *Senſe* and *Sobriety*. Therefore I Repent not the Pains I have taken.

Country-m. I'm ſure you have done Good to me, *Maſter*, and made me ſee as Clear as the *Sun* the *Madneſs*, *Confuſion*, and *Contradiction* of their *Scheme* of *Popular* Government, in Placing the *Power* of *Government*, in the *People*, or *Deriving* it from them. You have Anſwer'd all my *Scruples* and *Objections* which I had Learn'd in my former *Whigg* Converſation. You have Anſwer'd all that their Great *Lock* has ſaid, or any of them can ſay. And have Given them all the *Provocation* that is Poſſible to *Reply* to you; But they will not *Touch* there, they know the *Weakneſs* of their *Cauſe*, and let you go away with the *Triumph*. Therefore I have Left them, as being no Longer able to *Defend* themſelves. And they Return upon you all the *Spite* and *Fury* of Men that have Loſt their *Cauſe*, which Expoſes *Them* and their *Cauſe* tenfold more!

(4.) Nay they not only *Curſe* you, but they *Blaſpheme* that *Divine Right* whoſe *Cauſe* you have Undertaken. The *Review*, as you have here Quoted him, calls the *Doctrin* of *Jure Divino*, a *Ridiculous* Doctrin. And in other Places he calls it *Wicked* and *Abominable*. What can he mean, *Maſter*, to call *Divine Right* by theſe Names?

Rehearſ. He do's as they ſay the *Swine* do's, who when he *Swims* cuts his *Throat* with his own *Feet*.

For there is no other *Right* nor Can be but *Divine Right*, that is, all *Right* in the *World*, of whatever ſort, is *Deriv'd* from *God*. And what we call *Human Right* is that *Right* which *God* gives us, but *Adminiſtred* by the Hands of *Men*, therefore call'd *Human*. We have a *Divine Right* to our *Liberty* and *Property*, inſomuch that whoever *Invades* theſe *Unjuſtly*, is *Guilty* of a *Sin* againſt *God*. Even our *Governours* are Anſwerable to *God*, if they Deprive us of theſe without *Juſt* Cauſe.

But of all *Right*, the Right of *Dominion* and *Government* is moſt Expreſly from *God*. For who can give one Man *Dominion* over another but *God*? No *Man* has *Power* over his own *Life*, or to give that *Power* to *Another*, or over his *Liberty* or *Property*, as Mr. *Lock* has *Confeſs'd* and *Prov'd* in what I before Quoted out of him. *Num.* 38. Are all *Men* then *Equal* by *Nature?* They muſt then keep ſo. For none can Give the *Dominion* over himſelf to Another. But are Men *Born* in *Subjection*, and have *Parents* any *Authority* by *Nature.*? Even that is from *God*, who is the *God* of *Nature*. The *Dominion* of *Parents*, and *Husbands*, and *Maſters* is all from *God*, it is all *Jure Divino*. And ſo muſt that of *Kings* be, there is no other way Poſſible.

This is ſo Flagrantly *Plain*, that the *Popular* Men are forc'd to come into it. And thus they do it. They ſay, That *God* gave the *People* Power to *Chuſe* their own *Governors*, and what ſort of *Government* they Lik'd beſt. And then the *Voice* of the *People*, is the *Voice* of *God*, and ſo *Jure Divino*.

Country-m. But, *Maſter*, has any Anſwer yet been Given to what you ſay Num. 53. and *Num.* 68 to this *Plea* of the *Voice* of the *People*?

Rehearſ. No, *Country-Man*, nor Expect it. I ſay it again (to *Provoke* theſe Gentlemen to *Anſwer*) that they cannot *Anſwer* it. That it is made ſo *Plain* and *Apparent* as not to Admit of an *Anſwer*. Let them Try their Hand.

And I ſay this to Mr. *De Foe*. If the *People* have a *Divine Right* to *Chuſe* their *Government* and *Governors*, then he has *Blaſphem'd* in Calling the *Doctrin* of *Divine Right RIDICULOUS*! Who has it, or who has it not, is another *Queſtion*. But to call the *Doctrin RIDICULOUS* cannot be Excus'd from *Blaſphemy*, for he ſpeaks it of *Government* in General.

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